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GOVERNMENT EMERGES AS NEW SANTA CLAUS

Big Supplies At Low Prices

BEGINNING WITH A FIRST ISSUE TO DAY (FRIDAY) TO BE IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS FAIR, GOVERNMENT ARE MAKING AVAILABLE A BIG SUPPLY OF MEAT IN HONG KONG AT PRICES WHICH CHALLENGE THE CURRENT MARKET RATES. IN ADDITION TO CHEAPNESS, THE IMPORTED MEATS ARE OF A SUPERIOR QUALITY. THIS IS A CALLED ATTEMPT BY GOVERNMENT TO SEE THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, PARTICULARLY THE POORER PEOPLE, GET A FAIR DEAL ON THE FOOD MARKET.

BELOW IS A TABLE SHOWING PRICES OF THE IMPORTED MEATS, BUTTER AND CHEESE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE AS AGAINST THE PRESENT MARKET ON THE MARKET.

Elections In "Trust" Territories

LONDON, DEC. 20. DELEGATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS PREPARATORY COMMISSION A PLEDGED YESTERDAY A PROPOSAL FOR ELECTIONS IN "TRUST" TERRITORIES, WHICH PEDRO LOPEZ OF THE PHILIPPINES SAID WOULD HELP GIVE A BETTER DEAL FOR DEPENDENT PEOPLES IMMEDIATELY.

The vote was 31 to 4, with the United States, Britain, China and South Africa among the Philippines plan to guarantee elections every three years in all trust territories had been debated several days.

Lopez, elected to the committee representing the plan, saying "I feel that the United Nations must have credit in their views."

The Ukrainian amendment on power in a trusteeship council to hold elections and referenda was adopted. Associated Press.

WILL GO TO THE LIMIT

CHUNGKING, DEC. 20. OBSERVERS PREDICTED THAT BOTH NATIONAL AND CHINESE COMMUNIST LEADERS PARTICULARLY THE LATTER WILL "GO TO THE LIMIT" IN MAKING CONCESSIONS AT THE FORTHCOMING PEACE PARLAYS.

Each party, they pointed out, would seek to convince General Marshall, the new U.S. envoy, of their sincere desire for peace.

A Chinese press dispatch, meanwhile, confirmed earlier reports that the Communist siege of inner-Mongolian Paotow and Kweiwei, on the Peking-Suiyuan railroad, has been completely lifted, although fighting is reported to have continued elsewhere.

Negotiations continue in Chungking on the question of moving Chinese Government troops into Mukden. Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Liu Chieh told news men to-day. Associated Press.

Govt. Brings Cheap Wood

Two thousand tons of firewood has arrived in the Colony from Borneo, and is in process of delivery to dealers both in Hongkong and Kowloon.

This wood, which is well-known to consumers as first-class quality, is being made available to the public by Government at \$4.00 a picul, thus further reducing the market price for this essential commodity.

In spite of shipping difficulties, Government are trying to maintain a regular supply of Borneo firewood. It is hoped that another shipment will arrive shortly.

U.N.O. ON JANUARY 10

London, Dec. 20. The plenary session of the United Nations preparatory commission to-day unanimously agreed that Jan. 10 should be the date for opening of the first part of the session of the United Nations general assembly at the Central Hall at Westminster. Reuter.

Imported Local	per lb.	per lb.
Beef	\$1.10	\$1.00
Pork	1.00	.90
Chicken	.80	.70
Butter	1.00	.80
Cheese	1.50	1.00

The imported cheese is Cheddar, and the imported butter is of the highest grade.

In addition, beef will be available under this Government mark at 30 cts. a pound, and steaming steak at 90 cts. a pound.

The Government prices are in sharp contrast to the market rates when it is remembered that the latter have taken a steep rise in the last 10 days, pork which was selling at \$2.50 last week had gone up to \$4.00 a catty yesterday.

The scheme provides for distribution at five points as under:

Lane Crawford, Ltd., Exchange Bldg. (Annex), Dairy Farm Depot, 2, Lower Albert Road, Dairy Farm Depot, Dairy Section, East Point, Dairy Farm Depot, Nathan Road Branch, Dairy Farm Depot, Kowloon St. Canton Rd. Depot.

Chump cuts of veal and mutton will also be made available, and a start in the cutting up of carcasses has been made.

ORDER TO DAY

The first issue is being made to-day (Friday), and will be against book orders only. These orders will be issued on Sunday and on Monday, between the hours of 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Orders will be received up to 5 p.m. to-day (Friday) at each of the above distribution points except the Kowloon St. Canton Rd. Depot of the Dairy Farm. Payment must be made at the time of the order, and customers must go for their purchases between the hours stated above; no deliveries will be made.

FROM AUSTRALIA

As far as to-day (Friday) is concerned, the orders will be confined to the following fare:

Turkeys	8-15 lb. Birds	\$2.45
Chickens	3-6 lb. Birds	2.00
Hams	(dressed but not drawn)	\$2.65
Hams	refrigerated, about 14 lbs. each (whole)	\$2.05
Hams	half, chump end	\$2.10
Hams	half, shank end	\$2.00
Mutton	legs, about 6-7 lbs. (whole or half)	.95
Round Beef	\$1.30

A shipment has been received from Australia, and if the weather permits a resumption of off-loading, butter and cheese will be for sale on Monday at the prices quoted above, namely \$1.00 a lb. of choice grade butter and \$1.50 a lb. for Cheddar cheese.

The boneless beef and the steaming steak, at 60 cts. and 90 cts. respectively, will be on sale soon.

Nationalisation Of The Bank

LONDON, DEC. 20. NATIONALISATION OF THE 250-YEAR-OLD BANK OF ENGLAND WON FINAL APPROVAL IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS LAST NIGHT BY A VOTE OF 308 TO 125. THE MEASURE WAS SENT TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The bill provides for transfer of the financial institution to public ownership.

Legislation to put Britain's coal mining industry under public ownership was introduced in the Commons and given its formal first reading. Associated Press.

Edda Gaoled

Rome, Dec. 20. The Minister of Justice to-day stated that Countess Edda Mussolini, has been sentenced by an Italian court to two years' confinement in prison on charges of Fascist activities. Reuter.

Police Chief To Be Tried

SHANGHAI, DEC. 20. ROLAND SARLEY, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE FRENCH MUNICIPAL POLICE WILL BE TRIED PUBLICLY WITHIN A FEW DAYS FOR ALLEGED MILITARY ESPIONAGE DURING THE VIGOROUS PROTESTS BY THE FRENCH CONSUL GENERAL.

Chinese authorities indicated the case will go before the High Court, the first case in which a foreigner is to be tried since the abolition of extrajudiciality. Foreigners regard it as a test case showing what they may expect under the Chinese courts.

Under the former administration Sarley could have been arrested and tried only by the French and not the Chinese.

Sarley is charged with having furnished military information to the Japanese in the beginning of the fight for Shanghai, also of assisting the Japanese and the puppet secret service. Associated Press.

SEVEN S.S. MEN TO BE EXECUTED

Nuremberg, Dec. 20. The trial of the Nazi war criminals ended its first session to-day for its Christmas recess. It will resume its sitting on January 3.

A Russian Military Tribunal to-day sentenced seven former members of the German S.S. Or conviction to death and three to terms of imprisonment for 20, 15 and 10 years on charges of atrocities in Smolensk during the war.

Yamashita Respite On Novel Point

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. CRITICISM EMANATING FROM THE PHILIPPINES AGAINST THE U.S. SUPREME COURT ORDER STAYING THE EXECUTION OF GENERAL YAMASHITA WAS BASED UPON A "MISINTERPRETATION" OF WHAT THE COURT HAS DONE.

THE NEWSPAPER EXPLAINED: "ACTUALLY THE DECISION TO GRANT A STAY IMPLIES NOTHING MORE THAN THE JUSTICES HAVE NOT DECIDED WHETHER THEY SHOULD RECEIVE YAMASHITA'S CASE."

"And even if the ultimate decision should be to give him a hearing, that would be motivated not by any softness or sympathy for Yamashita but by a proper desire to insure proper judicial consideration of the lone important issue which has been raised by Yamashita's conviction by an American military commission."

The "Star" said the main basis of Yamashita's petition was that "petitioner believes his appeal should be entertained by this court for the additional reason that the trial of a general of a vanquished nation by the victor nation on a charge that presupposes that he is guarantor of all the actions of his troops is a novel concept, and that any such trial by a purported agency of the United States should be carefully scrutinized by the courts, and any attempt to avoid such judicial consideration should be circumvented."

The newspaper added: "The important thing is that the principle sought to be established here apparently is a novel one and once established may react to our embarrassment in the future."

Australian Invitation

Canberra, Dec. 20. United States war veterans who served in the south-west Pacific area are being encouraged by the Australian Government to settle in this country. Immigration Minister Arthur Calwell said he was investigating the possibility of reducing shipping fares for veterans who wish to move to Australia. He said he already had approved applications for many new comers who have been discharged in Australia. Associated Press.

SHANGHAI TURNS OUT TO GREET MARSHALL

SHANGHAI, DEC. 20. GEN. GEORGE C. MARSHALL, NEW SPECIAL AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO CHINA, LANDED AT SHANGHAI'S KANGWAN AIRFIELD SHORTLY BEFORE 2 P.M. TO-DAY ON HIS MISSION OF MOMENTOUS IMPORTANCE TO CHINA'S HOPES OF PEACE.

THE 66-YEAR-OLD FORMER AMERICAN CHIEF OF STAFF, DELEGATED TO EXERT EVERY EFFORT TO BRING UNIFICATION TO CHINA, ARRIVED FROM MANILA IN A SILVER C-54 TRANSPORT PLANE, TO BE MET BY AN IMPRESSIVE ARRAY OF AMERICAN AND CHINESE OFFICIALS.

General Marshall is expected to fly to Nanking, perhaps Friday, for his first meeting with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek since the Cairo conference.

A crowd of about 300 greeted Marshall, who proceeded to the Cathay Hotel along a road lined by thousands of persons eager for a glimpse of the famed American war leader and the man on whom a tremendous weight of hope for settlement of China's troubles has been placed.

The group greeting Marshall at the airport included: Lt.-Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, American commander in China; Walter Robertson, acting U.S. Minister at Chungking; Vice-Adm. Daniel Barbey, commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet; Rear-Adm. C. Turner Joy, commander of the Yangtze Patrol; Paul Josselyn, U.S. Consul General in Shanghai; Gen. Ho Ying-ching, Commander in Chief of Chinese armies, representing Chiang Kai-shek; and Gen. Liao Yung-shang, commandant of the new Chinese Sixth Army.

Paul McNutt, U.S. High Commissioner in the Philippines, was expected to follow Marshall to Shanghai for a conference with Wedemeyer in which Marshall was expected to participate. Associated Press.

Stalin Receives Byrnes And Bevin

MOSCOW, DEC. 20. JOSEF STALIN RECEIVED U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE BYRNES AND BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER BEVIN IN MOSCOW YESTERDAY. THE RUSSIAN LEADER WAS REPORTED LOOKING WELL AND RESTED.

BYRNES AND BEVIN ALSO CONFERRED FOR THE FOURTH TIME WITH FOREIGN COMMISSAR MOLOTOV IN A SESSION LASTING AN HOUR AND 15 MINUTES. INDICATIONS WERE THAT THE FIFTH MEETING WOULD BE SHORT, FOR MOLOTOV SENT INVITATIONS FOR A FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION TO-DAY.

Winston's Visit To America

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. THE WHITE HOUSE DISCLOSED YESTERDAY THAT MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL, BRITAIN'S WAR-TIME PRIME MINISTER, WOULD VISIT THE UNITED STATES, ARRIVING IN MID-JANUARY.

Churchill will discuss "world affairs" in an address on March 5 at Fulton (Missouri) College and will be introduced by President Truman.

The announcement said Churchill had accepted an invitation of Colonel Frank Clarke, of Quebec, to stay at his house in Florida, during February, and that Churchill contemplates no other public engagements. Associated Press.

Freedom Of The Press

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. BYRON PRICE, WARTIME CENSORSHIP DIRECTOR, SAYS THAT FREE EXERCISE OF EDITORIAL OPINION AND CRITICISM IS THE FOUNDATION STONE OF OUR FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

"Any censorial excursion into that realm would most certainly destroy the respect and confidence of the country," he said in a report to President Truman.

Censorship should be used only as an instrument of war, he said. Even then, he added, it should aim strictly at keeping useful information from the enemy and collecting information which may be turned against him.

He said voluntary war-time censorship of United States editors and broadcasters was just as effective as the compulsory brand in Britain and Canada. Price cited as examples the keeping of secrets of the North African invasion, Casablanca Conference, preparations for D-Day and the atomic bomb. Associated Press.

Estonians Make Remarkable Trip

NORFOLK, VIR., DEC. 20. SIX OF 16 ESTONIANS WHO LANDED HERE ON SATURDAY IN A 37-FOOT SAILING BOAT AFTER 120 DAYS AT SEA WERE PLANNING TO LEAVE TO-DAY FOR LAKEWOOD, VIRGINIA, IN THE CARE OF CAPTAIN RUDOLPH PAALBER, PRESIDENT OF THE ESTONIAN STEAMSHIP CO. OF NEW YORK AND FATHER OF THE TINY CRAFT'S SKIPPER.

The group will remain in New Jersey awaiting the decision of the United States Attorney General whether they will be allowed to remain in America. The other ten will remain in Norfolk with complete freedom until their cases are settled.

Paalbers arrived in Norfolk on Tuesday where he greeted his 69-year old wife, the oldest person who made the voyage and saw his grand-daughter aged three for the first time. Associated Press.

THE WEATHER

To-day's Forecast: Mild and cloudy, with occasional rain. Light to moderate easterly winds. Yesterday's temperature: Maximum: 45 degrees at 2 p.m. Minimum: 31 degrees at 5 a.m.

Berlin Gang Warfare

Berlin, Dec. 20. In view of the outbreak of shooting incidents in Berlin, which is seriously worrying the Allied Authorities in Berlin, the British Authorities have instructed all British army or civilian car drivers to carry arms and ammunition in the streets of the German capital after 9.00 p.m., it was announced last night.

Women drivers must have an armed escort, it is added. Reuter.

No Jim Crow Restrictions In World Capital

LONDON, DEC. 20. UNITED STATES DELEGATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS PREPARATORY COMMISSION MEETING TO-DAY GAVE UP CLAIMS FOR EQUAL STATUS OF INTERESTED POWERS IN THE SHIFT OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS MANDATED TERRITORIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP CONTROL.

They agreed that the general assembly will be asked to end upon the mandate powers to not in concert with the states directly concerned in taking steps to turn their mandates over to United Nations control.

This would place the United States and other powers without League of Nations mandate territory in a secondary position in discussing trusteeship negotiations affecting such territories as Palau and the Pacific Islands mandated to Australia and New Zealand.

It was felt the position of the United States in relation to Japanese island mandates would not be affected since these territories can be considered as "detached from the enemy" and matters of prime responsibility for the major powers.

Britain urged the selection of a small city in the eastern United States as the permanent home for the United Nations Organization. The British backed an Indian demand that there be no "Jim Crow" racial restrictions within the prospective new "world capital" area. Associated Press.

Pravda On The Old Tack

MOSCOW, DEC. 20. A PRAVDA WRITER, N. SOKOLOVSKY, SAID TO-DAY THAT "EXISTENCE OF A BIG AMERICAN ARMED FORCE IN CHINA RIGHTFULLY ALARMS THE DEMOCRATIC PUBLIC, NOT ONLY OF CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES, BUT OF THE WHOLE WORLD."

"This alarm does not become any less in the light of numerous statements of opinion by former U.S. Ambassador Hurley. He has developed outspokenly an imperialistic programme for American penetration in China with the aim of counteracting 'English imperialism and Soviet imperialism' invented by himself."

Sokolovsky said President Truman had explained that the United States forces were helping disarm Japanese. The writer commented that this "cannot serve as sufficient reason for transfer of large American armed forces to North China, and China's armed forces should be able to handle that detail. Associated Press.

THREE-DAY CHRISTMAS

New York, Dec. 20. Nearly all the nation's security and other agencies announced plans to close Monday, Dec. 24, making a three-day Christmas weekend holiday. Without exception, they will all close for Christmas and New Year's days. Associated Press.

Germans In China To Be Repatriated

CHUNGKING, DEC. 20. A SPOKESMAN OF THE CHINESE FOREIGN OFFICE SAID TO-DAY THAT ALL GERMANS ARE LIABLE TO REPATRIATION UNDER A REGULATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE YUAN ON NOV. 27. THE GENERAL TERM OF GERMANS INCLUDED AUSTRIANS, HE DECLARED.

Italian nationals, he disclosed, would not be repatriated because "the Italians are not regarded as enemies any more."

The spokesman, however, emphasized that, in drawing up regulations for the repatriation of Germans, the Chinese Government had in mind "a liberal and generous treatment."

Any German suspected of collaboration with the Japanese or puppets would, of course, be tried in the Chinese courts and, if found guilty, would be appropriately punished, he said.

German missionaries not suspected of any treason acts would be allowed to remain in China. Those who were guaranteed by responsible officials of their churches and obtained permission from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Interior would be allowed to carry out their work in the localities where they were originally operating. Those unable to produce guarantees would be allowed to carry out their work only in the areas designated by the Chinese Government. Associated Press.

FILM STARS WED

NEW YORK, DEC. 20. NOEL TOY, THE CHINESE DANCER AND ACTRESS, WAS TO-DAY MARRIED TO CAPTAIN CARLETON YOUNG OF THE U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES AND FORMER HOLLYWOOD ACTOR.

The couple became engaged during the United Nations Conference in San Francisco. Young made 120 movies before entering the service. Associated Press.

ROBBER KILLER IN KOWLOON

Shot and robbed at the corner of No. 13, Nelson Street, Kowloon yesterday afternoon an unidentified Chinese, about 30 years of age, was taken to the Kowloon hospital, but died 20 minutes after admission.

Several persons witnessed the incident but none were able to give any assistance to the police, other than that the murderer was dressed in European clothing.

The only clue the police have at present is a hat with the characters in Chinese "Hip Wo, pic dealer." Until late last night no arrest has been made.

THE CHINA MAIL

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WHY?

The suggestion that a few members of the B.U.C. are given up to the answering of questions on the immediate problems of the day by a Minister, or some other responsible person, may be traced to a certain restlessness in a world where patience is becoming a faded word. Now that the war is over, the civilian, or the soldier about to resume his civilian status, has a lot to carry in his head if he wants to work out a satisfactory explanation of shortage and the like. Clothes, priorities, unemployment, zones. "Sometimes I cannot do the stitching, my head gets so thick," complained Miss Wetherill's Daisy, "and I have to take two or three days for it." There are many who will sympathise with her, and the patient ranks are beginning to feel they have a right to some explanation for the problems of the day. It is true that special cases are continually being made which, if read diligently, not only contain the clues to what the distress had, but also, as a result, it should be and needs something more definite and easily understood. It takes a very little to put a crowd waiting in sunshine for the players to come out of the pavilion after heavy rain and working itself up into a frenzy, over the apparent inaction of all in authority will be questioned by the sight of a blackboard announcing that the pitch will be opened at 3.30. Information carried in itself the power to soothe even if it promises no relief.

The Socratic pattern of question and answer is one that particularly commends itself to the mood of the moment. "Quiz" has lost its old Regency air of tolerant and condescending humour and has come to represent those exercises in general knowledge which have become almost as popular as the crossword puzzle, itself an ingenious method of imparting and extracting knowledge. Never, it seems, was knowledge in such demand, and those about to put off their uniforms and probably more avid for it than civilians, who have been to take refusal with that meekness which does not inquire into causes. "There's not to reason why" may be a good military maxim for the heat of action, but it is not accepted as unreasonably as when Tenney's proclaimed it, and does not apply at all to affairs outside the immediate orbit of service. The A.B.C. has taught something more than the A.B.C. of citizenship, and the privates to-day are almost as well equipped in the matter of miscellaneous knowledge. That children should be seen and not heard is a discredited nursery ruling, and that little word "why" in spite of the embarrassment it sometimes causes, is now encouraged rather than suppressed. Governments should prove themselves no less liberal and enlightened than parents, and a little brief answering of pertinent questions would help every one to bear the inconveniences and rigours of the peace.

TOBACCO THEFT

Imprisonment for four weeks with hard labour was imposed on Yue Choi by Mr. C. Y. Kwan at the Summary Court yesterday morning when he pleaded guilty of stealing five tins of tobacco leaf and one bundle of candles from Wellington Barracks on December 12.

Accused was arrested by a Chinese detective on a lorry which was stopped at the bottom of Garden Road. Accused was employed as an odd job cooie at the barracks.

PROHIBITED AREA

An area round the Stanley Peninsula marked by buoys surrounded by white and red flags is a prohibited area to junks or other craft.

This information is conveyed in a Harbour Office notification which warns that junks or other craft ignoring the notice are liable to be fired upon without warning.

Kowloon's First Tenancy Tribunals

TENANCY TRIBUNALS ON THE KOWLOON SIDE COMMENCED SITTINGS YESTERDAY, WITH MR. F. X. D'ALMADA AND MR. HORACE LO PRESIDING. THREE CASES WERE HEARD, ALL BEING APPLICATIONS FOR EVICTIONS.

Application for eviction on the ground that he was ejected from a portion of the premises during the Japanese occupation was brought by Young Tze-long against Chan Wai-chuen, of the Wing Fung Tai firm, occupying No. 113, Pei Ho Street, ground floor.

The application was heard before a Tribunal comprising Messrs F. X. d'Almada, G. P. Martin and F. C. Mow. The applicant was represented by Mr. E. S. C. Brooks. Applicant said he was tenant of the premises, No. 113, Pei Ho Street, up to 1941. During the Japanese occupation he was forced to give up the premises and later had to pay rent of ¥200 to the applicant's predecessor, the Fuk Luk San Restaurant. The tenancy was transferred to the applicant on or about March this year.

Young Tze-long, in evidence, said he was principal tenant from 1933, but in 1942, by Japanese order, he had to clear from the area which was used as an amusement area. The Fuk Luk San Restaurant took the opportunity to take over the premises. The restaurant proprietor became tenant and applicant had to pay rent of ¥200.

TENANCY TRANSFERRED. The tenancy was then transferred to the Wing Fung Tai firm and applicant was asked to continue paying rent to the Fuk Luk San. Later he was requested to pay rent to the Wing Fung Tai, who, however, demanded H.K. \$200. The pre-war rent, said the applicant, was \$100 per month.

Chan Wai-chuen, opponent, testified that, in February this year, the tenancy of No. 113, Pei Ho Street, was transferred to him with the consent of the landlord for ¥11,000. He became principal tenant and the rent recently was made out in his name. Transfer was made on the understanding that the whole premises could be vacated. As applicant could not find a house, he allowed him to stay. Up to now, applicant had not been removed.

Giving the Tribunal's decision, Mr. d'Almada said that applicant had ceased to be tenant of No. 113, Pei Ho Street in October, 1942, and subsequently became sub-tenant of Leung Chuk sang. Therefore, the application must fail.

Applicant said he wanted to engage a solicitor. Mr. d'Almada pointed out that he could appeal. NO ARREARS. Another application for eviction was brought by a landlady, Wai Chau-shi, against Lee Sit-ching, proprietor of the Kwong Wah firm of No. 108, Kilang Street, ground floor.

Applicant claimed that Lee had

not paid her rents. Lee became her tenant in 1942 at a monthly rental of ¥1.50 which was later increased to ¥5.00. The pre-war rent was \$67. She had asked him for rent on several occasions, but was refused.

Lee Sit-ching said he became tenant early in 1942. He had not been in arrears. He produced a receipt of house No. 118 in the same street, the rent for which was only \$20.

Mr. d'Almada: "How much rent are you prepared to pay?" The landlady says the pre-war rent was \$75.

Lee Sit-ching: "I am ready to give her \$40. This is higher than that which is being paid by my neighbours."

Mr. d'Almada: "Would you care to accept the rental at \$75?" "No, it is too high for me."

Applicant said that she was owed four months' rent and that she wished to take back the premises.

The Tribunal decided to inspect the premises before giving its decision. Hearing was adjourned to Dec. 27.

EVICTON ORDER. The Kowloon Tenancy Tribunal handed its first case yesterday when Mr. Horace Lo presided, assisted by Mr. C. E. Terry and Mr. G. P. Martin. Application for eviction from the front portion of 339, Nathan Rd. was made by Wan Hon-ying. Opponent was Chan Yui King, who was absent due to illness, and her husband, Lai Shun-chik.

Wan Hon-ying stated that he was authorised by his landlord to take full possession of the premises from Feb. 1, 1942. The front portion was used by the Chi Lo Sui at Club, but after the surrender in 1941, the club premises were closed and there were no tenants.

The case for the other side was that they were asked by Mr. Lan, chairman of the Chi Lo to take care of the flat. They had paid no rent from Feb. 1942 to the present day. Witnesses were called and said that members and officials of Chi Lo invited the opponents to stay in the premises.

Lam Shu-chow, manager of Chi Lo, asked to produce rent receipts but he was unable to do so.

Wan Hon-ying said that the opponents to the application first came to the premises with two Japanese, and not with anybody from Chi Lo.

An order for eviction by the end of this month was given. A member of Chi Lo asked for permission to appeal, which was given by Mr. Lo.

Britain Requested To Hold Horses

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. THE UNITED STATES HAS REQUESTED BRITAIN AND SIAM TO DELAY THE SIGNING OF ANY AGREEMENT UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF BRITISH-AMERICAN DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBJECT, ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN ACHESON DISCLOSED YESTERDAY.

He said the United States had repeated its request on several occasions when it appeared that an agreement formally terminating hostilities between Britain and Siam was about to be signed.

The American request for delaying any agreement was because of the following factors:

The long period of sympathetic relationship between the United States and Siam, including United States sympathy with Siamese hopes for an independent democratic government and, Secondly, America's great interest in peace and stability throughout the Far East as a result of the major part played by the United States in the war against Japan.

Acheson said the United States had been kept informed of developments in the Siamese-British discussions, but that atmospheric conditions had delayed messages on the subject.

British officials in Washington had predicted the agreement would be signed within the next week.—Associated Press.

FORD STRIKE ENDS IN CANADA

Windsor, Ontario, Dec. 20. Workers at the Ford Motor plant here decided last night to end the strike which has been in progress since September 12, by accepting the Government sponsored "back to work" plan. The strike was the longest and most serious in Canada's motor industry and involved ten thousand workers.—Reuter.

Tokyo Palace Strike!

Tokyo, Dec. 20. According to Kyodo news agency 50 members of the Imperial Palace guards have struck and the remaining 550 have threatened to walk-out unless key officials were dismissed and other "democratic" measures taken. The unprecedented situation is reported to have created confusion among palace officials who don't know how to apologise to the Emperor for the strike. Associated Press.

Five Years' Hard Labour For Junk Pirate

Sentence of five years' hard labour was imposed on Chan Shing, 21, who was found guilty by the Standing Military Court yesterday of armed robbery and of carrying of arms while committing an offence at Cheong Chau Harbour on September 22.

Mr. Leo d'Almada (President), Mr. D. H. Blake and Mr. Horace Lo comprised the court.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada, assisted by Inspector A. Bethell, prosecuted. Accused was charged with robbing Fung Shing, on board a fishing junk of HK\$230, £347.00, three anchors, 30,000 fishing hooks, 40 suits of clothing, ten fishing nets, one piece of rice, one pair of gold and pearl earrings, four ones, three white hemp ropes and seven cabbies of green hemp.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada said that, on September 22, while the occupants of fishing junk No. 7349A were sleeping, four men boarded the boat. Two of them were armed, one with a revolver, and the other with three hand grenades. The men said they were members of the Red army and wished to be taken to Pui O. While the junk was proceeding on its way, the master was pushed overboard, his son following him into the water. The rest of the occupants were put ashore at Ah Chow.

The junk was next seen in Tai O by the owner.

Mr. Leo d'Almada interrupted to say: "The facts seem familiar."

Mr. F. X. d'Almada: "This case came before this court in October when another member of the gang was sentenced."

Continuing, Mr. d'Almada said the owner made a report to Wong Kiching, the guerrilla head, and Wong Kwan was charged in October. Chan Shing was recognised by the junk owner at Cheung Chau on Dec. 6 and was arrested.

Mr. Leo d'Almada said: "Your confederate was sentenced to five years' hard labour. You will go to prison for the same period with hard labour."

Idle Sentimentality Towards China Ended

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. THE REPORTED CESSATION OF CHINESE CIVIL CONFLICT AND THE SCHEDULING OF A UNIFICATION CONFERENCE BY CHINA'S CONTENDING FACTIONS HAS GIVEN GENERAL MARSHALL AN AUSPICIOUS GROUNDWORK FOR THE BEGINNING OF HIS MISSION TO CHUNGKING, IN THE OPINION OF WASHINGTON OFFICIAL CIRCLES.

MARSHALL IS EXPECTED BY STATE DEPARTMENT AND CONGRESSIONAL CIRCLES TO INAUGURATE IMMEDIATE EFFORTS TO EXECUTE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED IN PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S STATEMENT ON CHINA POLICY.

Officials here feel that the sudden quiet in China's internal strife resulted from Truman's statement.

The Washington "Post" editorially credited "general hardening of the Allied policy toward China" with a portion of the credit.

The newspaper expressed the belief "the days of idle sentimentality toward China have ended" and continued that henceforth "realities in China, as Secretary of State Byrnes puts it, will guide American policy toward China."

Referring to Russia, the "Post" said: "It is evident that Moscow has ceased to flirt with Yenan." It also interpreted the Russians' cooperation with China in Manchuria as further evidence that Moscow is supporting Chiang Kai-shek's regime.

Some official quarters here expressed the opinion that Chiang's Government showed itself unexpectedly slow in executing its post-war tasks, especially in receiving the Japanese surrender in China, thereby providing a definite factor leading up to Truman's statement.

The "Post" expressed the opinion that Russia and the United States now have achieved parallel policies toward China. Associated Press.

Death Of E. A. Souza. It is with regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. E. A. Souza, which occurred yesterday morning at the French Hospital after a long illness.

Aged 31, the late Mr. Souza was educated at St. Joseph's College and on leaving school joined the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank with which he was connected up to the war.

In 1942 he went to Macao. Since then his health had not been good and he spent most of his time in hospital.

The late Mr. Souza was a well known sportsman and during his school days he represented his College in football and cricket.

He was a member of the Cui Kong-wei Cricket Club and represented them in cricket and lawn bowls, being one of the Club's best bowlers.

He is survived by his father, Mr. M. A. R. Souza, and brother, Mr. G. A. Souza, who is at present in Shanghai.

COCKTAIL PARTY. Over 300 persons were present at the cocktail party at the Hong Kong Hotel given by Mr. Leung Yew in honour of Mr. M. K. Lo, who was recently invested with the C.B.E. for invaluable services rendered to the British Empire.

Among those present were Brigadier D. M. Macdonnell, Chief Civil Affairs Officer, Col. W. M. Thomson and Sir Simonson Chow.

1,500 CHINESE REFUGEES ARRIVE TO-DAY. The S.S. Cheshire is expected to-day with 1,500 Chinese repatriates from Australia.

In order to provide accommodation for these repatriates, no bookings will be allowed on the through train from Kowloon to Canton at 3.35 a.m. to-morrow morning.

CAUGHT ON THE SPOT. Ng Pui was arrested on the spot on Wednesday after snatching a wrist watch from a Chinese woman in Pei Ho Street, Shamshuipo. Lt. Nigel, convicting him yesterday, said he considered the case serious because accused was guilty of stealing by force and his victim was a woman. Accused was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

Five men armed with revolvers and a Mauser entered No. 88, Sai Yeung Choi Street yesterday evening and stole HK\$10,000, a Parker fountain pen and a watch.

The Harbour Office, on the direction of the Naval Authorities, notifies that sweeping of magnetic mines is being carried out in the inner approach channel, Hong Kong, and advises all vessels to keep well clear of the sweepers while operating.

Affidavits Struck Out In Trial

YOKOHAMA, DEC. 20. AN AFFIDAVIT OF ABUSE AND MURDER OF AN AMERICAN PRISONER OF WAR WAS STRICKEN FROM THE RECORDS YESTERDAY AT THE TRIAL OF THE JAPANESE CHARGED WITH HIS DEATH. THE MILITARY COURT ACTION BROUGHT STRENUOUS PROSECUTION PROTESTS THAT SUCH A RULING WILL CAUSE MANY OF OUR CASES TO FAIL.

The affidavit of Private First Class Charles Gavord, who was ruled out because the prosecution could not produce the original copy and attempted to induce a mimeographed copy as a certified duplicate.

Maj. Louis Goffen, chief prosecutor—of Tatsuo-Tsuchiya, nicknamed "Little Glass Eye," for the killing of P.F.C. Robert Tena, attempted to convince the

commission that the original was misplaced in one of the many Army Sections that investigated war crimes.

Over continued defence objections, other affidavits continued to pile up evidence, all linking "Little Glass Eye" to the brutal and fatal beating of Tena. The prison camp guard is the first Japanese to be tried in Japan on war crimes charges.—Associated Press.

ended" and continued that henceforth "realities in China, as Secretary of State Byrnes puts it, will guide American policy toward China."

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The "Post" expressed the opinion that Russia and the United States now have achieved parallel policies toward China. Associated Press.

WARNER BROTHERS PROUDLY PRESENTS

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THE BRIDE CAME C.O.D.

—NEXT CHANGE— AT THE ALHAMBRA THEATRE

CAR BANDITS AT WORK. A lorry of No. 142, Connaught Road Central, a fruit stall, reported to the Police last night that at about 9.15 p.m. six Chinese alighted from a saloon car and came up to his stall apparently to buy cigarettes.

Four were armed with revolvers. They stole \$60 and four packets of cigarettes and then drove away.

UNRRA VISITORS. Mr. T. A. Martin, Regional Director of the UNRRA, or organisation, arrived in Hong Kong from Canton by C.N.A.C. plane on Thursday.

Other UNRRA officials, on their way to Shanghai, arriving from Saigon included Miss J. T. Birdsey, Mr. A. F. Bowring, Mr. Chatham, Mr. Vinck and Mrs. M. Ransom.

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X'mas Dinner Dance 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. \$6.00

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Gala Ball 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Buffet De Luxe \$6.00

New Year's Eve Ball 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. (31st December) Dinner \$6.00

MALAYA'S CONSTITUTION

Objection Taken In House Of Lords' Debate

Tories Think It Premature

LONDON, DEC. 19. VISCOUNT ADDISON, DOMINION SECRETARY, DENIED IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS TO-DAY THAT THE NEW CONSTITUTION WAS BEING DICTATED TO MALAYA.

VISCOUNT MARCHWOOD (CONSERVATIVE) HAD SAID THAT OLD FRIENDS OF HIS FROM MALAYA SPOKE OF THE ANXIETY AND CONCERN REGARDING THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S INTENTIONS.

Jap. Gestapo Building Taken Over

TOKYO, DEC. 19. THE AMERICAN CORPS FOR MALAYA TOOK OVER A MODERN, LIGHT GRAY BUILDING OVERLOOKING THE IMPERIAL MOAT TO-DAY, WHICH FOR 19 YEARS WAS HEADQUARTERS OF THE JAPANESE "TERROR POLICE".

THE NOTORIOUS KEMPEI TAI.

From this four-story structure, said CIC Chief Brig Gen Elliott Thorne, the dread military police radiated authority and control which enabled Premier Tojo to retain absolute power over the Japanese.

Its prisoners included thousands of Japanese. Numerous Americans also were held in its grimy, dark cells.

One prisoner told American investigators three American B-29 crew members were held there. He named them as Sgt Robert Evans of Littleton, West Virginia; Lt Col Turner and a man named Rodak. Thorne said all were liberated. Associated Press.

Philippines Rehabilitation Bill

Washington, Dec. 19. The Philippines Resident Commissioner here, Mr. Carlos Romulo, to-day termed the Philippines Rehabilitation Bill awaiting House action as "the most important legislation concerning the Philippines now before the Congress."

Romulo is pressing sharply for action on the pending measure which would provide \$450,000,000 for the islands' postwar rehabilitation.

Romulo told the House that the Senate in passing the measure had expressed half the will of the United States. He said: "Now it is up to the House" and he urged speedy action.

The Philippines received further attention of the House when Karl Stefan, Republican of New Jersey, inserted in the records the text of Romulo's recent speech before the United Nations forum on December 17. Stefan termed

Enquiry Into Tank "Scandal" Demanded

LONDON, DEC. 20. MR R STOKES (LAB IPSWICH), CHAIRMAN OF THE ENGINEERING FIRM OF RANSOMES AND RAPIER, ASKED THE WAR MINISTER IN THE COMMONS WHETHER HE WOULD NOW CAUSE A FULL ENQUIRY TO BE MADE INTO THE WHOLE QUESTION OF TANKS AND TANK PRODUCTION DURING THE WAR AND RENDER A REPORT TO THE HOUSE.

LAWSON REPLIED THAT AS AT PRESENT ADVISED, HE COULD SEE NO ADVANTAGE IN AN ENQUIRY.

Stokes: May I ask whether the War Minister is aware of two reports already made to the Government which are so bad, they dare not tell the House of Commons. Is he aware that, as a result of the gross inefficiency that went on, thousands of young men lost their lives and literally hundreds of millions of money were wasted?

Lieut. Col. Lindsay (Cons. Solihull) explorer and author, who commanded a parachute battalion during the war, asked the War Minister whether he was aware

Romulo's discussion on Far Eastern problems as a message to all Americans and urged speedy House approval of the Bill. Associated Press.

Gold Scandal

Chungking, Dec. 20. A Chinese Government official was to-day convicted while eight other defendants were acquitted in the gold scandal case which developed through alleged leak of information of China's plans to raise the price of gold futures about 75 per cent on March 28.

Wang Shao Chai, Department of the Ministry of Finance, immediately announced his intention to appeal. Associated Press.

Control Of Air Transport

LONDON, DEC. 19. The British Government proposed to establish three statutory corporations for air transport. It was stated in a White Paper on British air services to-night.

This first stage in the nationalisation of civil aviation provides for a major policy of air transport development and the broad range of activities of corporations being vested in the Minister of Civil Aviation.

The Government will seek by international agreements to eliminate all forms of subsidy, but recognise that some measure of State aid may be necessary to support essential but unremunerative national ones. Although the plan is so that it can readily be fitted into any future scheme of an international organisation. Reuter.

PEIRSE RETIRES

LONDON, DEC. 19. The retirement of Air Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, retaining the rank of Air Chief Marshal, is announced. He became Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Air Force in India after having been Chief of the R.A.F. Bomber Command. Reuter.

Cloud Of Secrecy In Moscow Talks

(By Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent in London).

LONDON, DEC. 19. THE MOSCOW TALKS BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BRITAIN, THE UNITED STATES AND SOVIET RUSSIA, BEGUN IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF OPTIMISM, HAVE BECOME OBCURED IN WHAT APPEARS TO THE OUTSIDE OBSERVER TO BE A CLOUD OF SECRECY.

THERE MAY BE GOOD REASONS FOR THIS BUT ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT NEWS OF THE CONFERENCE IS PASSING THROUGH THE IRON SYSTEM OF SOVIET CENSORSHIP WHICH WAS RECENTLY RE-ESTABLISHED.

It is taken for granted that the talks which obviously have as their aim the formulation of policy which may have far reaching effects upon the rest of the world and the control of atomic energy and solution of the Persian trouble are only two of the important matters which come within such policy making must to some extent enter the realm of diplomatic secrecy.

Although the Moscow meeting began four days ago the net effect of all news despatches from the Soviet capital has been only that Mr. Molotov, Mr. Ernest Bevin and Mr. James Byrnes have met. There has been no inkling of what has been under review.

The Soviet censorship, it may be recalled, was reimposed a week before the meeting of the Big Three and it appears to have reverted to the severity which rightly characterised it during the war for security reasons but which was continued long after the war had ended, up to about the end of October.

During November and up to as late as the first week of December newspaper correspondents in Moscow were allowed to write reasonably freely.

The reimposition of censorship, it is assumed, may not altogether be unconnected with the return about December 7, of a former head of the Foreign Press Office section in Moscow.

This official during the period of relaxed censorship had undertaken other duties. Reuter.

Dispute Over Blacklisted Newsmen

WASHINGTON, DEC. 19. THE CHINESE EMBASSY TO-DAY REITERATED THE CHINA NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO REFUSE ENTRY PERMITS TO CHINA OF NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENTS WHOSE WRITINGS HAVE AUTHORED WRITINGS INIMICAL TO THE COUNTRY.

A spokesman said the Embassy refused to grant passport visas to such correspondents was in accordance with instructions received from the Chinese National Government.

Meanwhile, the State Department disclosed it had instructed the U.S. Embassy at Chungking to take up with the National Government of China the matter of American correspondents desiring to enter China but who were refused permission.

FOUR CASES

The State Department indicated that four cases to be brought to the attention of the Chinese Government by the U.S. Embassy at Chungking were those of Edgar Snow, of the Saturday Evening Post, Darrel Berkman, of the New York Post, and Harold Isaacs, of Newsweek Magazine.

The Chinese Embassy disclosed that Jack Belden was also seeking to re-enter China for Colliers Magazine. Up to now he had been refused permission but it was anticipated that a visa would

U. S. Plans For Ship Surpluses

WASHINGTON, DEC. 19. A BILL PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSAL OF 4,576 AMERICAN SURPLUS MERCHANT VESSELS, ON THE BASIS OF PREFERENCE FOR AMERICAN NATIONAL PURCHASERS, WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE TO-NIGHT.

The bill now goes before the Committee of the House of Representatives.

As framed by the Senate, the measure contemplates an increase of American tonnage for use in foreign trade of a minimum of 7,500,000 tons and a maximum of 19,000,000 tons as compared with the pre-war figure of 3,000,000 tons.

American merchant vessels engaged in both foreign and domestic trade are expected to total between 15,000,000 and 20,000,000 tons.

General cargo, Liberty and Victory ships, which constitutes the majority of the vessels to be declared as surplus would be offered to foreign bidders after what the bill calls a "reasonable waiting period," during which American nationals may exercise their option to charter or to buy them. Reuter.

Isolationist Caustic

WASHINGTON, DEC. 19. The House of Representatives to-day voted 344 to 15 to make the United States a full partner in the United Nations Organisation.

The vote came on a Bill authorising the President to name United States representatives on the Organisation and empowering him to use economic sanctions and troops if necessary against aggressors. A similar Bill was approved earlier by the Senate.

Congressional leaders said they expect to iron out differences in a conference this week.

A few opponents of the U.N.O. Bill were bitterly caustic. Representative Smith, Republican of Ohio, termed it "a vote for permanently underwriting the economies of other nations for guaranteeing the safety of the British Empire with the blood of our sons and daughters. It also gives approval to world communism."

Representative Sumner, Republican of Illinois, said the Bill "will throw away our independence and set up a world super-government and involve our boys in every war hereafter." Associated Press.

be granted him shortly.

The Embassy denied the existence of a Chinese Government blacklist of correspondents who were to be refused permits to enter the country. Associated Press.

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SAILINGS TO BANGKOK
I.C.S.N. Co. S.S. "WOJANG" ... 24th December, 1945

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I.C.S.N. Co. S.S. "KWAISANG" 20th December, 1945

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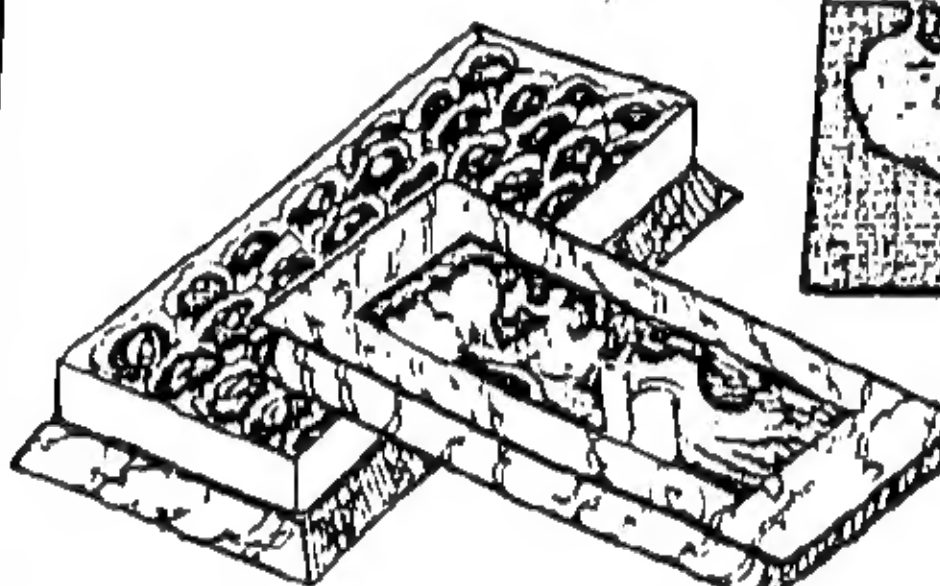
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R.A.O.B. - Many visiting brethren are anxious to contact residential Hong Kong brethren, with a view to restoring "Buddhism" here. Write Box No. 41 "China Mail".

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN ATTENTION! Andie's Beauty Salon moved to Gloucester Arcade, Gloucester Arcade, Gloucester Arcade. Expert hairdressers, manicurists, expert beauty treatments. First class personal shampoo, manicure, face massage for ladies.

JUNE, AFRICAN AMERICAN APPLS. Xmas stocking, preserved ginger, (Chair) tea at Man Yung & Co. Gloucester Arcade, (Dea) Venus Road Entrance).

IDEAL XMAS GIFTS. For ladies and gentlemen pyjamas, slippers, dressing gowns, neckties, handkerchiefs, kimonos, shawls, night-gowns, handbags, etc. Special prices at Nana Silk Store, Kwun Tong Hotel Building, 20, Hanks Road.

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POSITION VACANT

LADY STENOGRAPHER FILE CLERK, permanent position American firm. State age, experience and salary desired. Reply to Box No. 48 "China Mail".

Indian Officers Who Headed Torture Camp

NEW DELHI, DEC. 19. THE PROSECUTION AT THE TRIAL HERE OF TWO FORMER OFFICERS OF THE JAPANESE SPONSORED "INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY" ACCUSED OF MURDER AND OF WAGING WAR AGAINST THE KING, SPOKE TO-DAY OF A CONCENTRATION CAMP, WHICH THEY ALLEGED WAS A TORTURE CAMP FOR INDIANS REFUSING TO JOIN THE INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY.

This is the third in the series of trials of former officers of the Army. The prosecutor said that one of the accused officers, Subadar Shingara Singh, was the commandant of the camp and the other of them, Jemadar Fateh Khan, his assistant there.

They took personal part in "all the brutalities inflicted upon the helpless and unarmed men who had been their fellow soldiers in the Army," he alleged.

"Blows, overwork, starvation, thirst and indignities suffered by the unfortunate prisoners were the direct work and responsibility of the accused."

On one occasion when a party of prisoners refused to go to the concentration camp, the accused opened fire on them with revolvers as also did an armed guard. Some unarmed prisoners attacked the guard with their shoes and the accused and guard left in a hurry.

After the firing, it was found that three of the prisoners were dead and a large number wounded and some of them permanently maimed.

WITHDRAWAL PLEA. On the eve of the departure of the Parliamentary Delegation from London for India a group of Members of the British Parliament urged the withdrawal of the trial.

TUTION WANTED

NAVAL men with no knowledge of pianoforte, and very little of music, wish tuition in both. Communicate Box No. 42 "China Mail".

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MANY PEARL HARBOUR WARNINGS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19. Vice-Admiral Wilkinson told the Pearl Harbour investigating committee yesterday that before December 7, 1941, he thought a Japanese attack on Hawaii "was possible but not probable."

He said it never occurred to him to give Hawaii a specific warning against air attack even though he knew the naval base was especially vulnerable to such an assault.

He testified that he was instructed before the disaster to withhold from civilians about "secret" diplomatic conversations. He said he did not know Adm. Husband Kimmel in Hawaii had urged Washington to keep him posted on diplomatic developments.

Another naval intelligence memorandum put into the Committee records show that the Navy had received information of the Japanese fleet location on December 1, 1941, but that none was shown to be anywhere near Pearl Harbour.

MORE THAN BREAK

Wilkinson testified that he wanted a general warning to be sent to the fleet four hours before the attack on Pearl Harbour. He said he told of part of an intercepted Japanese message to Secretary of State Cordell Hull which indicated more than just a break of relations.

"To me these were fighting words," he said.

He said he conferred with Admiral Harold Stark and tried unsuccessfully to immediately contact General Marshall.

Wilkinson also told of seeing a Japanese code message dividing Pearl Harbour into five areas but said he did not recognize it as a precise bombing plan as it turned out to be.

He said that on Sept. 24 a message sent from Tokyo to Honolulu asking for a chart of Pearl Harbour was decoded by the Navy on Oct. 9. He said the Navy concluded it was just another example of Japan's "nicety of intelligence" and meticulous attention to detail.—Associated Press.

Separate State For Moslems

LONDON, DEC. 19. IF BRITAIN PLAYS THE ROLE OF LIBERATOR IN INDIA, AS SHE HAS DONE IN EUROPE, HINDUSTAN AND PAKISTAN WILL BE PILARS OF INTERNATIONAL UNITY.

So said Mohammed Ali, president of the London branch of the India Muslim League, at a meeting of the International Friendship League to-day.

"Britain must liberate both Hindus and Moslems from the bondage of imperialism," Ali declared. "When this is done there must be a separate state for the Moslems because they fear that British rule will result in another imperialism sitting tight at Delhi—Hindu imperialism."—Reuter.

Turkey Rustlers At Work In England

LONDON, DEC. 20. TURKEY RUSTLERS WHO HAVE STOLEN THOUSANDS OF BIRDS FROM COUNTRY FARMS HAVE BECOME SUCH A MENACE THAT FARMERS IN SEVERAL AREAS HAVE FORMED NIGHT PATROLS TO GUARD THEIR STOCK. THERE ARE TWO MAIN SPOTS OF ACTIVITY—THE WEST OF ENGLAND AND IN WALES. A LONDON GANG USING BRISTOL AS HEADQUARTERS ARE BELIEVED TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LARGE SCALE THEFTS IN GLOUCESTER AND MENDIPS AREAS, ACCORDING TO THE "DAILY SKETCH."

They have stolen during the past few weeks 3,000 birds being fed by farmers for Christmas. Police believe that the gangs in North and Central Wales are being watched.

GANG FLED. Home Counties farmers scored their first victory over rustlers. Armed with shotguns, clubs and pitchforks, they foiled an attempt by a gang to loot a farm near the Sussex-Surrey border. The rustlers, met by the armed patrol, fled towards London empty-handed.

Shortly after this first attempt.

Japanese Read U.S. Secrets Before War

WASHINGTON, DEC. 19. THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE INQUIRING INTO THE PEARL HARBOUR ATTACK TO-DAY LEARNED THAT THE JAPANESE HAD INTERCEPTED AN AMERICAN BROADCAST ON DEC. 6, 1941, THAT GAVE THEM INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF BATTLESHIPS, CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS ENTERING OR ANCHORED IN PEARL HARBOUR. THE DISCLOSURE CAME IN A JAPANESE NAVAL OFFICER'S STATEMENT OBTAINED THROUGH GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS IN TOKYO. THIS IS THE FIRST EVIDENCE THAT THE JAPANESE WERE READING AMERICAN MESSAGES BEFORE THE WAR.

The statement came from Commander Tamao Tachibana, Japanese naval intelligence officer. He did not make clear whether the Nipponese had broken one of the American codes.

The Committee also heard that the Pearl Harbour disaster may have been a lot worse if the Japanese had caught the fleet anywhere else. This was the view of Vice-Admiral Wilkinson.

He had told the Committee that the fleet might have had an hour and a half to get out of Pearl Harbour if Washington had dispatched an urgent message to Hawaii as soon as he recommended it on Dec. 7, 1941.

GREATER PERIL

But he added that the fleet would have been in greater peril if the Japanese attackers had struck it in Lahaina, another anchorage used by the Navy, or even at San Pedro, California or Puget Sound. He pointed out that the A.A. defenses were not as complete at these points as they were at Pearl Harbour.

The Committee also heard that an American broadcast the day before the Pearl Harbour attack gave the Japanese interceptors information on the number and types of warships at the Hawaiian base.

Tachibana's statement also brought out that the Japanese commanders were told in preliminary orders on Nov. 9, 1941, to prepare "for a possibility" that war with the United States, Britain and the Netherlands might become inevitable in the first part of December.

STRICT WATCH

The order admonished "strict watch against possible surprise attacks" to be maintained.

He said the Japanese intelligence section for years gathered bits of information about the United States fleet from naval officers in Washington, American newspapers, magazines, radio broadcasts, passengers, radio and crewmen at Honolulu, foreign diplomatic and commercial firms.

He said that submarine observation was also carried out around Pearl Harbour.

The Committee received a memorandum from Sumner Welles, former Under-Secretary of State, describing the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting at sea on August 10, 1941.

(1) To agree then on post-war obligations to disarm aggressor nations arising from this, until a United States and British police force be established.

(2) President Roosevelt agreed to United States occupation of the Azores.

CHURCHILL POINT

(3) Churchill said he could not subscribe immediately to the premise that all peoples would have access to world markets and raw materials. He raised the point that this collided with the preference system and he would have to consult the Dominions.

(4) The British sought to have the Americans and Dutch join in further encroachments in the south-west Pacific would lead to counter-measures even though the resort might be war.

Wilkinson declared that the fleet, even if spared at Pearl Harbour might have met disaster if it was to relieve the Philippines.

Senator Brewster, Republican of Maine, interjected: "yes, public opinion might have decided on a relief expedition to the Philippines."—Associated Press.

AN ISLAND SURRENDERS

Pearl Harbour, Dec. 19. The Stars and Stripes for the first time in more than a century waves over Chichi Jima, a former Japanese fortress and seaplane base in the Bonins.

U.S. Marines landed there five days ago to accept the surrender of Lieutenant Hoshio Tachibana and the garrison. —Associated Press.

of black market men in this part of the country the Chief Constable of Sussex County Police issued to every poultry keeper in the county a warning to be on the guard.

Shortly after this first attempt.

CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB

Will members please attend a meeting at 11 a.m. on Sunday 23rd December at Room 85 Stock Exchange Building, 3rd Floor, Ice House Street.

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Yuen Yieh Bank.

With a view to making safe available again for normal safe deposit transactions, holders of such boxes in the above Banks are notified that arrangements are now being made to examine the contents. The Public are warned however, that a large number of the boxes have been forcibly opened by the Japanese.

Application forms, obtainable at the Banks concerned, should be completed and forwarded to Mr. A. Ritchie, Currency and Banking Section, Finance Branch, 2nd Floor, Mercantile Bank Building, 7, Queen's Road Central, on or before THURSDAY, 27TH DECEMBER, 1945.

The dates to be fixed for opening the boxes will be advertised later and box holders will be required to attend personally with their keys.

C. G. S. FOLLOWS
Chief Financial Adviser
Civil Affairs.

Hong Kong, 19th December, 1945.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONG KONG

POLICE AND PRISON BRANCH

It is hereby notified that sealed tenders, in duplicate, for the supply of meals to Chinese prisoners, witnesses and deportees for a period of three months commencing 1st January, 1946, will be received by the Chairman of the Tender Board, Public Works Branch, Civil Affairs Headquarters, until 12 o'clock noon on Monday, 24th December, 1945.

Such tenders should be clearly marked "Tender for the supply of meals to Chinese prisoners."

No tender will be considered unless the person tendering attaches thereto a receipt that he has deposited with the Accountant General at the Treasury a sum of \$25, as a pledge of the bona fides of his offer, which sum shall be forfeited to the Crown if such person, his tender having been accepted, fails or refuses to carry out his contract.

A meal will consist of—

(a) Prisoners and Witnesses

8 ozs. white rice.
2 " fresh or salt vegetable.
2 " fresh or salt fish.
1/2 " oil.
1/2 " tea.
(b) Deportees
12 ozs. white rice.
3 " fresh or salt vegetable.
2 " fresh or salt fish.
1/2 " oil.
1/2 " tea.

Tenders may be for the supply of meals to any or all of the undernoted Police Stations—

Central. Kowloon City.
Upper Levels. Shamshui.
No. 2 (Wanchai). Yauwatt.
Bay View. Mong Kok.
No. 7 (West Point). Hong Kong.
Shaokwan. Water Police (Tsimshatsui).

The successful tenderer or tenderers will be required to sign an agreement and give security to the satisfaction of the Government in the sum of \$50.

For forms of tender and any other information apply at Police Headquarters, New Orient Building, Hong Kong.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

C. H. SANSOM,
Commissioner of Police.
Hong Kong.

17th December, 1945.

HONGKONG HOTEL ROOF GARDEN

REOPENING ON SATURDAY

22nd December, 1945

European and Chinese Meals

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI HOTELS, LTD.

NAAFI/EFI OFFICERS CLUB

PENINSULA HOTEL KOWLOON

From Wednesday, 19th December onwards

DINNER DANCE

Nightly from 8 p.m.—11 p.m.

\$3.00

Tickets may be booked in advance.

But must be taken up by 8.15 p.m.

NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that the Eureka Import & Export Co., Ltd., having no liabilities whatsoever, has been voluntarily liquidated.

DIRECTORS.

NOTICE

I, the undersigned, Managing Director of former Eureka Import & Export Co., Limited, wish to inform the public that I have resumed business at Alexandra Building, 3rd floor, Rooms 320/321, under Eureka Import & Export Co. (NOT Limited) Samuel Fernand Ip.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, (HONG KONG.)

The attention of all owners or occupiers of tenements is drawn to Article 13 of the Rating Proclamation No. 17 whereby certain returns are required before the 31st December, 1945.

Forms for the completion of these returns are now available at Treasury, Prince's Building, 1a, Des Voeux Road, Central.

T. G. STOKES, MAJOR, RATING OFFICER.

Hong Kong, 14th December, 1945.

HONG KONG COMBINED SERVICES OFFICERS CLUBS

NOTICE

After further discussion with the New Management (NAAFI) it has been decided that all outstanding club books issued by the Combined Services Officers Clubs, complete or otherwise, are to be cashed by 1st January, 1946, after that date, they will cease to be legal tender.

For the Management Committee, J. H. TELFER, S. L. R. N. V. R. Secretary.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONG KONG WORKS BRANCH CIVIL AFFAIRS

Water Supply

NOTICE

The public is hereby warned that no account should money be paid to any employee of the Waterworks Department.

Accounts for any sums due will be issued from the office of the Water Authority in St. George's Building and the money must be paid into the Treasury at 1, Des Voeux Road, Central.

Any person who is asked for money by any Waterworks employee should report the matter immediately to the Water Authority.

Every workman sent to carry out work at consumers premises is provided with an Authorisation Order which he should be asked to produce.

J. FORBES, Lt. Col. WATER AUTHORITY.

NOTICE

FORMER B.A.A.G. CIVILIAN STAFF

SUBJECT: STAFF COMPULSORY SAVINGS SCHEME

1. Compensation for loss incurred by staff due to depreciation of C.N. Currency will be paid to all those who were still contributors when the above scheme was cancelled.

2. Compensation must be claimed before 12.00 hrs on 28th Dec. 1945 after which time and date no further payments will be made.

3. Payments will be made at Room 310, 3rd Floor, Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank Building, on working days between the following hours:-

10.00 hrs-12.30 hrs
14.00 hrs-17.00 hrs.

Colonel L. T. RIDE, Commandant, B.A.A.G.

THOMAS COWAN & CO. (CHINA)

WHITE ANT EXTERMINATORS

Queen's Building, Room 320
Phone 30722
Agents: Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.
Phone 22019

EXHIBITION FOOTBALL MATCH

UNITED SERVICES

VORSHUN

CHINESE

SUNDAY

21st December, 1945
at Bookman's Ground
Kick Off 3.30 P.M.

Admission \$1.00 (including tax)

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, (HONG KONG.)

NOTICE

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT IN ORDER TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT TO CANON FOR CHINESE REFUGEES FROM AUSTRALIA, BOOKINGS WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR THE 8.35 AM THROUGH TRAIN FROM KOWLOON ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22.

L. B. TREVOR

Lt. Col.

Manager of Railway

TENDERS

Tenders are invited for the purchase of old packing cases.

For full particulars and forms of tender, apply before Monday, 24th December, 1945 to

Supt. Naval Store Officer,
H. M. DOCKYARD,
Hong Kong.

NOTICE

The Goodwill of the Firm of LINSTAED & DAVIS, Chartered Accountants, of Exchange Building, having been acquired by Messrs. Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company, Chartered Accountants of London, Paris, New York, Calcutta, etc., the business will be carried on in future under the name and style of PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL AND COMPANY at the same address.

The Members of the Firm of Messrs. Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company, Hongkong, are:-

SE W. H. PEAT, K.B.E., R.M. PEAT,
C. BERNARD BROWN,
J. Y. V. HUNT

The resident Partners are Messrs. C. BERNARD BROWN and J. Y. V. HUNT.

PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL AND COMPANY,
LINSTEAD AND DAVIS

19th December, 1945.

PLAZA BALLROOM & RESTAURANT

RESTAURANT
Open from 9.00-11.30 p.m.

BALLROOM
Open from 7.00-1.00 a.m.

"The Nicest and Cutest Place in Town
Is The Verdict Of All And Sundry."

COME TO-DAY
149-155, Lockhart Road, Wanchai.
Tel. 24148.

ABC STUDIO
Newly Open!

EXPERT PHOTOGRAPHER IN TOWN

We will colour one copy for you free of charge by taking your photo here with this newspaper cutting.

PRICE VERY MODERATE

23, Hoanossy Road, Wanchai
(Follow the arrow)

STICKY PROBLEM OF KOREA'S FUTURE

NEW YORK, DEC. 20. CHAMPIONING THE CAUSE OF KOREAN INDEPENDENCE ROBERT OLIVER, IN A LETTER TO THE "NEW YORK TIMES" WARNED THAT NOW "IS THE TIME FOR EVERYONE WHO WOULD PREVENT" A THIRD WORLD WAR TO SPEAK UP FOR AN ENLIGHTENED, JUST AND FIRM POLICY TOWARD KOREA AND ALL THE ORIENT.

OLIVER SAID THAT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE CHOICES FACE AMERICA IN CONNECTION WITH KOREA:

(1) Continuance of joint United States and Russian military control;

(2) Establishment of a trusteeship to be administered by the United States and Russia with probably the face-saving inclusion of Chinese and British representatives;

(3) Surrender of Korea to Russian influence;

(4) Incorporation of Korea into the area of the Japanese empire to be governed by a new Allied commission to which General MacArthur would be subservient;

(5) Withdrawal of the Russian and American forces as soon as arrangements are completed for holding fair election of a new and independent Korean Government.

Oliver declared that neither will be served only if the fifth alternative is put into effect but expressed the opinion that it was one least likely to be adopted unless pressure of informed United States opinion may bring it to pass.

UNHAPPY KOREA. The San Francisco "Chronicle" in an editorial headed "Unhappy Korea" said Koreans are somewhat disillusioned under the joint American and Russian occupation.

The newspaper said Koreans are skeptical of the United States avowal that she is merely grooming Korea for statehood and added "all they can see is they have exchanged one group of military occupation for another."

"Even though they are wrong about our intentions the fact

"THORNYCROFT" Our Branch Office has opened temporary premises at Messrs. Blair & Co., at French Bank Building, 2nd floor, and we shall be obliged if all prospective clients will communicate enquiries to that address during the present emergency period where they will be promptly handled and commended to our executive who is now proceeding to London to ascertain full details and specifications with prices of latest models on all lines of our products:-

Vehicles - Petrol/Diesel.
Marine Engines - Petrol/Diesel.
Boilers - Water Tube.

Motor Boats & Water Craft of all descriptions.
Our Hong Kong & China Office is a Direct Branch of:-

JOHN I. THORNYCROFT & Co., Ltd.
Smith Square,
Westminster,
London.

There are twelve passengers. They are Mr. Max Gavin of U. Spallinger & Co. (S.A.), Mr. W. H. Hewitt of the Standard Vacuum Oil Co., Mr. Lee Bing-hong, a Chinese merchant, Mr. Harold Lowe, of the British American Tobacco Co., Dr. and Mrs. Jacinto Vargas-Moniz and children from Macao, Mr. J. J. Paterson of Jardine Matheson & Co. and Mr. I. G. Peterson, of the North American Insurance Co.

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LEAGUE SOCCER MEETING

Representatives of Soccer Clubs are reminded of the meeting of the League Management Committee this evening at 6.00 p.m. when the fixtures will be arranged.

All qualified referees who desire to officiate in the forthcoming league matches are requested to register themselves with the League Management Committee.

Registration Forms are obtainable from Mr. Wong Ka Tsun, Chairman of the Committee, at the Office of Messrs. Lo and Lo, Alexandra Building, First Floor.

Congress Ready For Holidays

Washington, Dec. 20. Congress increased its work schedule to-day in an effort to complete legislative action before the holidays on two major Bills dealing with international affairs.

One was the resolution passed by the Senate calling for the Government "to use its good offices" with Britain to permit the free entry of Jews into Palestine. The resolution went before an early session of the House for a final vote to-day.

Another Bill was to make the United States a full partner in the United Nations Organisation already passed by the Senate and the House, but in a slightly different form.

The conferences from the two Houses went to work with little difficulty expected in reaching an agreement, since the only point at issue is an amendment by the House which would allow Congressmen and Government officials to serve as U.N.O. delegates without extra pay. Associated Press.

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QUEEN'S THEATRE

Tel. 31453

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 and 9.15 p.m.

FIRST NEW PARAMOUNT PICTURE

ARRIVED IN HONG KONG!

BARBARA STANWYCK - JOEL MCCREA

in

"THE GREAT MAN'S LADY"

Also LATEST NEWSREEL:

"V-2 IN ACTION"

ALHAMBRA THEATRE

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.00 & 9.00 P.M.

U.S. ARMY-NAVY DISPUTE Truman's Nine Points In Favour Of Merger

Indianapolis Acquittal

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. CAPT. CHARLES MC VAY III WON AN ACQUITTAL LAST NIGHT ON CHARGES OF NEGLIGENCE AND INEFFICIENCY IN THE LOSS OF THE CRUISER "INDIANA POLS".

The navy court martial which acquitted him after a lengthy trial with the announcement of its findings in the case, however, pending review by higher naval authorities. McVay said he had no intention to make an appeal. McVay, as the final witness, defended himself vigorously against the accusation that as commander he was negligent and inefficient in her loss with 880 lives lost July 30 between Guam and Leyte. The Navy attributed the sinking to submarine action. Reply to the charge that he failed to maintain a zig-zag course through waters where enemy submarines might be encountered, McVay said he did not do so because he felt that zig-zagging was a waste of time and that he was not a submarine hunter. He said he was not a submarine hunter and that he was not a submarine hunter.

Censorship's Defence

MOSCOW, DEC. 20. PRO-CENSORSHIP IS DEFENDED IN AN ARTICLE IN THE "NEW TIMES" TODAY BY NIKOLAI BALITSKY, WHO CALLED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CODIFICATION OF CENSORSHIP. He said that as long as the world is not at peace, censorship is not only a necessary evil, but a necessary one. He said that as long as the world is not at peace, censorship is not only a necessary evil, but a necessary one. He said that as long as the world is not at peace, censorship is not only a necessary evil, but a necessary one.

XMAS FARE

ALL THE WAY FROM AUSTRALIA

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Choice Grade Butter ... \$1.90 per lb.
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U.S. FLIERS RELEASED

Pleasant, Dec. 20. Six marine fliers who were held in Chinese Communist custody for over a month were returned yesterday to marine headquarters. The Communists escorted them most of the way. Associated Press.

BATAAN ATROCITIES

DALLAS, TEXAS, DEC. 20. LIEUT. GENERAL JONAS DANIEL WAINWRIGHT TODAY DECLARED THAT HE COULD GIVE DEFINITE EVIDENCE TO SHOW THAT GENERAL HOMMA WAS MOST CERTAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATROCITIES IN BATAAN.

Wainwright has asked for permission to testify by deposition instead of returning to the Philippines. In an interview, he said, "Homma has stated he did not know anything about the death march and the sadistic actions of his troops in dealing with the captives. As Commander in Chief in the Philippines, I was not responsible for the actions of his troops." Associated Press.

C.I.O. Stands Firm On Strike Issue

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. DETERMINATION TO STAND FIRM IN ITS WAGE DEMANDS ON TWO MAJOR FRONTS WAS VOICED BY THE CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS' UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKERS AS PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S FACT FINDING BOARD WAS CALLED TODAY FOR ITS FIRST HEARING ON THE MONTH-OLD GENERAL MOTORS STRIKE.

After rejecting the Ford offer to raise wages by 12.4 per cent, or 15 cents an hour, the Union declared it was holding out for the 30 per cent raise it originally demanded. General Motors strikers voted by a 99 per cent majority to remain on strike until the Union demands were met in the bargaining conducted on President Truman's appeal for a resumption of work pending a report by the fact-finding Board.

The fact-finding Board's role, however, appeared to be linked with the eventual White House decision on whether car prices should be considered to have a bearing on the matter.

Meanwhile, American Federation of Labour Union member employees of the Western Union Telegraph Company have ordered a strike after January 7 after negotiations broke down on 13 issues, including a 25 per cent wage increase demand. Associated Press.

Civilian Control Of Military

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. STEPPING SQUARELY INTO THE CENTRE OF THE LONG ARMY-NAVY DISPUTE, PRESIDENT TRUMAN CALLED WEDNESDAY FOR A MERGER OF THE ARMY AND NAVY INTO A SINGLE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE WITH THE AIR FORCES FULLY EQUAL TO THE LAND AND SEA ARMS. TRUMAN, IN HIS FIRST STATEMENT ON THE CONTROVERSY, WHICH HAS BEEN WAGED BEFORE A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, FOLLOWED VIRTUALLY EVERY DETAIL OF THE OFFICIAL WAR DEPARTMENT PLAN FOR UNIFICATION.

He dashed one prime navy hope by declaring in his special message to Congress: "Further study of the general problem would serve no useful purpose."

Nine arguments underlined in Truman's own words were: (1) we should have integrated strategic plans and a unified military programme and budget; (2) we should realize the economies that can be achieved through unified control of supply and set vice functions; (3) we should adopt an organizational structure best suited to the fostering coordination between the armed services and the remainder of government; (4) we should provide the strongest means for civilian control of the military.

PARITY FOR AIR POWER

(5) we should organize to provide parity for air power; (6) we should establish the most advantageous framework for a unified system of training for combined operations on land and sea and in the air; (7) we should allocate systematically our limited resources for scientific research; (8) we should have unity of command in outlining bases; (9) we should have consistent and equitable personnel policies.

President Truman linked the proposed revision to foreign policy as a means of better enabling the nation to fulfill its obligations for preservation of world peace. "A military policy should be designed to support and protect our commitment to the United Nations Organization. It should be adjusted according to the success or lack of success of our diplomacy. It should reflect our fullest knowledge of the capabilities and intentions of other powers. Likewise, our foreign policy should take into account our military capabilities and the strategic power of our armed forces."

Declaring, "I urge this as the best means of keeping peace," the President proposed that the new defense department be headed by a single cabinet minister operating with one under secretary and several assistant secretaries, all of whom would be civilians. There would be a departmental chief of staff with a command for each of the three component military branches: army, navy and air force.

The key positions should be filled with officers drawn from all services "so the thinking of the department would not be dominated by any one or two services." The President suggested the Chief of Staff position be rotated among the different services when ever practicable and advisable. Associated Press.

Mr. A. T. Dow who is joining Mackinnon, Mackenzie, in Hong Kong, arrived by Dakota from Saigon on Wednesday. Mr. C. W. Brinton arrived to join Cable and Wireless. Mr. N. E. Clark, of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, arrived by air from Singapore.

French Request For Break With Franco

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. ACTING UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN ACHESON STATED YESTERDAY THAT THE LONG TALK HE HAD WITH DOCTOR JUAN NEGRIN, THE LAST PREMIER OF REPUBLICAN SPAIN, DID NOT INDICATE ANYTHING WITH REGARD TO UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARDS SPAIN.

Rumanian Change Pends

Bucharest, Dec. 20. Titu Petrescu, leader of the social democratic party, which occupies a key position between the communists and centre and right-wing opposition in the Rumanian political struggle, said to-day he wants a government change which would "re-establish democratic liberty, suppress censorship and apply laws in their letter and spirit."

Petrescu made this statement while rumours were circulated that the Groza government was nearing an end. Tentative movements looking toward a change have been unofficially made by the communist party.

Vice-Premier and Foreign Secretary George Takarescu made to-day what is generally considered a bid for leadership in a speech underscoring failures of the communist dominated government but avoiding an inference that the Soviet is in any way to blame. Associated Press.

RANGOON MURDER

Rangoon, Dec. 20. A young man, said to be an Indian, shot and killed Vellayan Chettiar, vice-president of the Burma Indian Chamber of Commerce, last night—Router.

Tang Siu Cheung and Chau Kau were charged at Kowloon yesterday with unlawful possession of a new tarantula. Defendants, who said they found the arachnid in Fa Yuen Street, Kowloon, were sentenced to 14 days' hard labour or a fine of \$25 each.

Winnie's Plans

London, Dec. 20. Mr. Winston Churchill last night said good-bye to the Conservative Members of Parliament at the House of Commons in a 45-minute speech at a meeting of the Conservative front members. He disclosed that he is going to Florida and said that he will not be back in London till the end of March, during which time Mr. Anthony Eden, former Foreign Secretary, will take his place as leader of the Opposition. Router.

War Warnings Not Passed On

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. VICE-ADM. T. S. WILKINSON SAID AT THE PEARL HARBOR HEARING THAT HE KNEW NO REASON WHY ADM. HUSBAND E. KIMMEL DID NOT RELAY WAR WARNINGS FROM WASHINGTON TO THE TASK FORCE WHICH LEFT PEARL HARBOR FOR MIDWAY TWO DAYS BEFORE THE JAPANESE ATTACK.

Kimmel was then commander of the Pacific Fleet based at Pearl Harbor. Wilkinson questioned the significance of a statement given by a Japanese naval officer in Tokyo last month to the effect that the Japanese overheard a United States broadcast on the number of warships and others entering or anchored in Pearl Harbor. Wilkinson indicated it probably was from some local broadcast or a radio amateur.

He said he knew of no reason for any official code message of that sort, leaving the implication that the Japanese had not read any American code in that instance.

The committee received evidence that the army feared a German-Japanese move into South America in June of 1940, screened by a naval raid on Pearl Harbor and sabotage of the Panama canal. The army went on an immediate alert in Hawaii and Panama but lifted the alert after nothing unusual happened. Associated Press.

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U.S. INTEREST IN INDONESIA

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20. THE UNITED STATES TO-DAY EXPRESSED INCREASED CONCERN OVER THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES SITUATION AND VOICED THE HOPE THAT ALL PARTIES WILL RENEW ATTEMPTS TO REACH AN AGREEMENT.

THE FIRST OFFICIAL STATE DEPARTMENT POLICY STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT REFRAINED FROM BLAMING THE INDONESIAN NATIONALISTS, THE DUTCH COLONIAL AUTHORITIES OR THE BRITISH OCCUPATION FORCES.

The United States also emphasized a definite interest in south-east Asia affairs by disclosing it has asked Britain and Siam to delay negotiations on an agreement to end hostilities. Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson told a news conference he believed the United States, while not a direct party to the talks, should first be permitted a full opportunity to express its views to Britain.

The statement on the Indonesian situation said the United States recognized that the primary responsibility for reaching agreement rest with the Dutch and

Indonesian leaders, but added that the United States cannot fail to be deeply interested in a solution of problems of vital importance to the whole world.

It said: "Our sole desire is to see such peaceful settlement achieved as will best aid world stability and prosperity and the happiness of the people."

It declared such a settlement is attainable only through a realistic, broad-minded, cooperative approach by all concerned and a will to reconcile differences peacefully. Associated Press.

Fighting Breaks Out At Buitenzorg

BATAVIA, DEC. 20. TOURING LEADERS OF THE UNRECOGNISED INDONESIAN REPUBLIC ARE ARMED WITH A PLEDGE FROM THE ACTING GOVERNOR OF NEIGHBOURING SUMATRA THAT "SUMATRA'S 10,000,000 ARE READY TO HELP YOU."

A DISPATCH FROM SOERABAYA SAID AMIR, A SUMATRA LEADER, APPEARED AT A MASS MEETING AND SAID: "DON'T THINK SUMATRA IS SELLING OUT JAWA BECAUSE WE ARE NOT FIGHTING NOW. WE ARE ALL ONE NATION."

Fighting broke out at Buitenzorg, a refugee concentration point 30 miles south of here yesterday. Several Chinese girls were reported killed when a mortar bomb hit a house in the Chinese quarter.

The Dutch news agency Aneta quoted a nationalist broadcast from eastern Java saying Indonesian nationalist auxiliary troops are pouring in from all sides to take up the battle for independence.

Indonesian nationalist leaders opening their "unity tour" of Java told 15,000 persons at a mass meeting that the oil rich islands would "remain always independent."

President Soekarno of the unrecognised Indonesian Republic asserted that the Dutch are "beginning to wobble" and said that "Dutch imperialism must fall." Associated Press.

Battle Near Peiping

CHUNGKING, DEC. 20. THE COMMUNIST "NEW CHINA DAILY NEWS" REPORTED TO-DAY THAT INTENSIVE FIGHTING HAS BROKEN OUT WITHIN A RADIUS OF 20 MILES OF PEIPING AND TIENSIN.

The dispatch was received as National Government and Chinese Communist leaders were reported ready to "go the limit" with peace discussions to impress General Marshall, the new United States special envoy to China.

The dispatch said Government troops, supported by Japanese and puppet troops, opened a drive under cover of swarms of airplanes. It said the Communists fought back but were forced to yield numerous villages.

Another dispatch said the Government had moved four armies to reinforce the southern sector of the Peiping-Hankow railroad between Hankow and Sianyang, 110 miles north, and began an attack on Communist-held areas east and west of the railroad. Associated Press.

MRS. ROOSEVELT TO GO TO LONDON

Washington, Dec. 20. President Truman has nominated Mrs. Roosevelt, wife of the late President Frank D. Roosevelt, to be one of the United States delegates to the United Nations Organisation General Assembly, which is to meet in London in January next year.

The other delegates include Mr. Stettinius, former Secretary of State, who has also been appointed by the President as United States member on the United Nations Organisation Security Commission. Router.

Chungking, Dec. 20. A Chinese despatch to-day credited the Commander of State Hygiene with the statement that the United States 7th Fleet would repatriate 200,000 disarmed Japanese troops over the next three or four months. Associated Press.

Danish Gift Of Xmas Toys

LONDON, DEC. 20. CHILDREN IN DENMARK FOR SOME TIME HAVE BEEN COLLECTING TOYS FOR BRITISH CHILDREN AND THEY ALSO HAVE COLLECTED MONEY TO BUY NEW TOYS TO SEND OVER. THIRTY-NINE CASES OF USED TOYS AND 18 CASES OF NEW TOYS ARRIVED IN LONDON YESTERDAY.

The Danish Minister's wife, Countess Reventlow, was present at the women's voluntary service in London when the first cases were unpacked. Eighteen of the cases will be distributed among schools and a big part will go to the children of the most devastated areas of London.

Three cases, Countess Reventlow decided, should go to the Danish-born Lady Beauchamp who is in the Women's Auxiliary serving as a distributor in Warwickshire, while some cases will be distributed through the Danish women's Welfare Committee in London. Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 20. Foreign exchange on Wednesday's market: Canadian dollar 93 1/2 per cent discount, 90.81 1/4; Argentina 24 7/8; others unchanged. Associated Press.

RADIO

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21st 1945. STUDIO-L.A.C. ALLAN WYLD, R.A.F. (BATHONE) PROGRAMME OF SONGS BY FAMOUS COMPOSERS.

ZBW HONGKONG broadcasting on a frequency of 940 Kilocycles add from 12.00 to 1.30 p.m., 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m. also on 9.82 Megacycles.

H.K.A. 12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary. 12.03 p.m.—Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra. 1.00 p.m.—News & Announcements. 1.10 p.m.—Short Programme of Spanish Music. 1.30 p.m.—Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra.

2.00 p.m.—Glee Down. 6.30 p.m.—British and Empire Variety. 7.00 p.m.—London Relay News. 7.10 p.m.—New Queens Hall Light Orchestra.

7.30 p.m.—Bridle—L.A.C. Allen Wyld, R.A.F. (Bathone)—(By Courtesy of L.A.C.)—A Programme of Songs by Famous Composers. 8.00 p.m.—"Forces Request Four." 9.00 p.m.—London Relay News. 9.05 p.m.—Musical Magazine—ENSA. 9.35 p.m.—Light Orchestra Concert with Richard Crooks (Tenor) and Joan Cross (Soprano).

10.15 p.m.—Miles Symphony Orchestra. 10.30 p.m.—Selections from Well-known Operas. 11.00 p.m.—Glee Down.

Programmes marked ENSA are recorded specially for Services Entertainment by the Department of National Services Entertainment.

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